

GRAPHIC ACCOUNT OF BULLER'S REPULSE AT THE TUGUELA

British Indomitable Under a Hurricane of Iron and Lead.

First Detailed Narrative of One of the Fiercest and Bloodiest Battles in Modern History.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

BY BENNETT BURLINGAME.

Chieveley Camp, Dec. 18.—Copyright, 1900, by James Gordon Bennett. All was in readiness in the camp of the left column before daylight on Friday, December 15. What with packing baggage and making ready, there had been few hours left for rest to officers and men. Sleep, even in campaign clothes and boots, by order, is not always possible.

Along the east of the railway went the cavalry, under the order of Dundonald, and several of the batteries. Hart's Brigade went off to the west, the Irishmen as they were called, to be in the van. With them also were field guns and the cavalry. I think the Thirteenth Hussars were on the right flank, and the Royals on the left, but neither of the cavalry regiments had much beyond the part of lookers-on to play that day.

General Buller, who is always steady and to be relied upon, had the post of honor, the attack upon the center, where the Boers were nearest and strongest, and, with the Queen's Own on the right of the railway, and the Devons from Chieveley on the left of the railway, advanced bravely. The men were in open order, eight paces or so apart, and moved onward with perfect dressing, almost too perfect for the job on hand. Behind the West Surrey, or Queen's, in support, were part of the West Yorks, while the Devons had the East Surrey in the rear.

Major General Buller had his detour in advance, toward Brille Drift, in closer formation; indeed, his men were caught under fire in quarter column and column of route, or something like it. Lord Dundonald made a wide circuit to get upon the slopes of the Tuguela hills which run north toward Peters Crossing, and expose the flanks of the Colonel's lines. With him was most of the Colonial Cavalry. Our front extended for fully six miles, not including the cavalry flankers.

The action was begun shortly before 6 a. m., by the naval contingent firing Lyddite and twelve-pounders. Heavily did they pound the trenches upon their front, Grobler's Hill, and the lesser ridges from Port Wylie northward, but not an answer came back from the Boers. Forward proceeded our infantry, while the Natal Carbineers, South African Light Horse, Thompson's mounted infantry and the "King's" mounted infantry advanced to occupy Hlangwane Hill. Major General Buller's Queen's and Devons were meeting the Platelayers and other outlying forces of Colenso. Colonel Long and Hunt had come into line with their three field batteries, and Lieutenant James, R. N., with his six long naval twelve-pounders, was doing his best with six wagons to range alongside of them. Major General Buller's brigade, on the right of Hildyard's, was doing nothing in particular, with the exception of the part of the Scottish and Irish Fusiliers, who got, later on, well into the heat of the fray.

The field batteries upon Hildyard's right might have been moving down the Long Valley, Aldershot, so excellently they were aligned over the downward slopes. They rumbled toward the timber-fringed bank of the Tuguela, half a mile or more east of Colenso. Colonel Long was determined his guns should not be outclassed, and was, with too great hardness, bringing them within fifteen hundred yards of Port Wylie. Indeed, he outpaced the infantry escort, at twenty-five minutes past 6 in the morning. Suddenly there burst an awful crash of Boer musketry upon the batteries and advancing infantry. Devons and Queen's. The rattle of Mausers, swelled and was maintained as one continuous roar from within 90 yards. From buildings and lines of trenches south of the river and from the river bank itself, the Boers fired at our gunners and footmen, and from trenches on the northern side of the Tuguela and from Port Wylie and elsewhere they sent out a hurricane of leaden hail.

The bullets venomously rained upon the ground in all directions, raising puffs of dust and tearing the air with shrill sounds. It seemed impossible that anything could face and live in that fire. Few have ever seen so heavy and deadly a fusillade, but neither the British gunners nor infantry hesitated or wavered. The cannon were wheeled into position, although many horses and men were shot down ere the maneuver was completed.

Our indomitable soldiers walked erect and straight onward. Not Rome, in her palmy days, ever possessed more devoted sons. As the gladiators grow in volume and bearing to death, so the British soldiers seemed to die saluted, and then, and with alacrity, stepped forward to do their duty—glory or the grave.

I, like hundreds more, am eager to proclaim that Tommy Atkins is a far grander hero than ninety-nine one-hundredths of the people in England have any conception of. Rough, it is true, he may be, but the stuff that makes for empire and for greatness fills his every vein, and heartiest Anglo-Saxon soldiers always advance in that way. I asked an American, who had seen warfare at home in Cuba, and Manila. If his own countrymen generally did. He answered:

"Yes, it is marvelous but wasteful." Perhaps there may be occasions when the sight of men coming on so steadily in the face of almost certain death will try the nerves of their antagonists, but my own view is that, save where men have to get to within running distance of a few lines of trenches, the system of rushes from cover to cover by small squads is far less wasteful of life. Closer and closer walked the soldiers to the Boer trenches. Our men managed to get within 60 yards of the nearest rifle pits. Lying down, they returned the fire, but there was little or nothing to be seen to aim at, for the enemy kept themselves carefully hidden behind trees, in trenches or behind walls. Unfortunately, it had not been suspected that the Boers had ventured to construct cover upon the south side of the river.

With magnificent courage Long and Hunt fought their guns, shelling the ridges across the Tuguela for over an hour. Port Wylie and the adjacent Stony Crest were swept with shrapnel, but the Boer fire from other ridges grew in volume during the temporary pacification by shell of Port Wylie. The Mausers did their worst all too well, and gradually two of Long's batteries were put out of action, but not before he and Hunt had been wounded, as well as most of the officers and men. The horses had been shot down and the others brought up to retire the guns shared their fate. Happily, the naval battery and the third field battery were able to withdraw to a safer position.

Meanwhile, the Devons and the Queen's had driven the Boers out of the Platelayers' and other houses, and had managed to clear the enemy out of Colenso village. Several of the Boer trenches had also been carried, the enemy, as usual, bolting when Tommy got near with gun and bayonet. Backward and forward went the shuttle of death from the trenches covering the low ground and foothills, and the walled crests across the Tuguela. The enemy's lines were crowded with riflemen, and the flash and puff of musketry ran ever up and down their front.

Our naval guns in the center, helped now in desultory way by others, hammered away at the Boer trenches. Five minutes after they opened with their rifles the enemy's guns followed suit with half a score of cannon. Our infantry and batteries were pelted with 6-inch Creusot shells, lesser Krupps and the aggravating rat-a-tat-tat of the one-pounder Maxim and Hotchkiss machine cannon. Ah, I should have added that, for it was part of the hurricane of iron and lead our infantry and gunners dauntlessly faced and advanced against. What wonder that all who saw the soldiers' heroism were enthusiastic in their admiration of Tommy?

I turn from Hildyard, who has got forward to the bank of the Tuguela, his men in Colenso and has seen a few of our reckless youngsters set foot by the ruined iron highway bridges to Hart's Trading.

The Irish Brigade, through no fault of the men, was somewhat late. Possibly the map was wrongly drawn upon which Major General Buller based his plans. At any rate, where he thought was the main river only a bewildering stream interposed. Down toward the salient, so to speak, of the Boer trenches and works he led his men as if on parade, and as if unfortunately turned out, in point-blank range of the enemy's Mausers, in close formation. The brigade had a withering fire poured into it and its accompanying cavalry and batteries.

Long had outstripped his escort, Hart had taken everything with him. Then the brigade strove to deploy, and Hart actually is said to have got markers out to see that it was done by book. The Boers promptly helped their Mausers with artillery, big and little, and our batteries and cavalry had to hurry to the rear to secure better ground.

A further swing to the left was made by the Irish Brigade, and General Lyttelton, who admirably handled his men throughout, keeping them in open order, pushed on a little way to find support. Consumed with wrath, the Dublin and Inniskilling Fusiliers hurried forward, backed up by the Connaught Rangers and the Border Regiment. They soon got to grips with the Boers. Swift and straight they swept down through the long grass into the donkeys toward the Tuguela.

It was about 7 a. m. With as force and prolonged a rifle fire as had greeted Hildyard's brigade, the Irishmen had to deal. Down upon them also descended 12-pounder shells from the left hill, and west of Grobler's. With the cheer they pushed for the river, and the enemy fell away before them, or were killed in their trenches by the smart shots of the Dublin boys. Five hundred yards of Boer trenches were passed over, and Buller himself watched them the while with admiration. The General, however, was recalled to Hildyard's brigade with the news that the enemy from the river banks, which he held in large numbers, was slating the batteries and the Second Brigade.

The battle proceeded with undiminished fury, yet, as in all big actions, there were those unaccountable and strange lulls, when the sound of conflict drifted into silence, the birds took up their songs, and one made note that the Boers were still shining peacefully. Rifles and cannon were cooling, and men were sitting tight, taking breath.

From 8 a. m. to 11 a. m. the fight was general and fiercest all along the line. Hildyard and Hart's brigades had suffered long before that hour, but the latter hours had heavier trials for all. The Colonial Cavalry had advanced to Hlangwane, to find the Boers in strength there before them. Nay, they had guns in position upon that rough hill and the larger range behind.

Truly, the wings or flanks of a Boer army are in the air, and it is well nigh hopeless to attempt to turn their flanks, so much do they rely on their extreme mobility and intimate knowledge of the country. To get at them, keep at them, and drive them—as at Standlaagte—appear the safest tactics. An hour of Brigadier Hector MacDonald would have made a difference in the turning movements that followed.

The Colonials fought bravely at Hlangwane, and even without the support they might have counted upon from Lord Dundonald and General Barton—but did not

get either timely or generously, or, indeed at all—came rushing within with their own hands the position. Why they did not help I am unable at the moment to say, or to afford an explanation. What I do know is that they won their way under a sharp rifle fire almost to the summit, and the enemy admitted that the position was all but gained. Regrettably, too, do I add, the battery was not able to render them much assistance. They were ordered down, and Hlangwane was abandoned to the Boers, with the result that the Colonials suffered more in the retreat than in the advance. The same fate, but to a lesser extent, befell the infantry when later on they fell back to camp.

By a quarter past 7 a. m. the Irish Brigade had driven the Boers to the north bank of the Tuguela. They found that the enemy had planted the ground with barbed-wire entanglements. Even in the bed of the river barbed wire had been laid. Down into the water went the Dublins, Inniskillings, Borderers and Connaughts. It was found there was no drift or ford. The Boers had cunningly dammed the river and there was ten feet of water, where it was ordinarily but knee-deep. They strove to find crossings, and many a fine fellow, with his weight of ammunition and accoutrements, was drowned.

It was a desperate and serious situation. The attack upon the right was making no progress, and Hart's men had reached an apparent impasse, but there were furious, angry Irishmen, who resolved to get across somehow, by dint of scrambling from rock to rock and swimming. A number went the other side, yet most found that they had but passed across a winding strand. The Tuguela still lay in front, and all the while the murderous fire of cannon and Mausers crashed, and comrades fell, weltering in blood.

Our naval guns did their best to silence the enemy's cannon, but the Boer gunners devoted their attention almost exclusively to slaughtering our cavalry, field artillery and infantry. Not more than a dozen shots were fired at Captain Jones's central battery, yet it was well within range. To conceal the position of their cannon was evidently an ever-present desire of the enemy, but the sailors did catch sight of one or two of the Boer cannon, and managed effectually to silence them.

Several of the Lyddite shells made magnificent hits, and one blew up a Creusot gun near Grobler's Kloof, another broke down the parapet of Fort Wylie, clearing an opening big enough to drive two omnibuses abreast. In these and other instances nearly all the enemy in the vicinity of the works must have been killed or maimed.

Matters were at their worst about 10 in the morning. During spirits of the Irish brigade had got across the Tuguela only to find lines upon lines of trenches before them or a wide network of wire entanglements. Colenso was in our occupation. The Queen's, and others of the Second Brigade, with a few of Barton's, chiefly the Scottish Fusiliers, were quite near the Iron Brigade and the river.

Regardless of the wildest fusillade ever heard from an enemy, our men tried to bore in further. Generals Buller and Clery, with their staffs and escorts, had ridden near the front guns, and subsequently went toward the platelayers' houses. The mounting hail of lead and iron snarled and splintered; dust puffed more than ever. Lord Roberts, who had been in the van, rode on and endeavor to save the two field batteries in the open. Readily other volunteers were found. Corporate from the footmen and drivers of the ammunition wagons, taking spare teams, galloped out, and men and horses began to fall on every side.

Young Roberts's horse was blown up with a shell, which inflicted severe wounds upon his body and limbs. Congreve was hit in the leg with a bullet, and his clothes were cut by other missiles. Schofield alone escaped untouched across that valley of death. Quickly the surviving animals were rounded up, the guns hoisted and dragged away. Again and again that day were attempts made to haul up all the remaining guns, which belonged to the Fourteenth and Sixty-sixth field batteries, which cannon and rifle fire was incessant and withering.

Sacrifices and heroism were common during those hours before Colenso. The difficulty was to refrain too many from rushing out to help the gunners, but that detracts not an iota from the merit of Roberts, Congreve and Schofield, who have earned the V. C. as worthily as it was ever earned.

Scenes of times did I see horse and rider fall beneath the stroke of Boer bullet and shell into the vortex, and then some soldier comrade would ride and assist his mate to rise, or two or more would set the wounded man on horseback and bear him from the field.

How shall I find space to tell half of the incidents? Men would help their horses shot and down, and an unwounded soldier would help his comrade to limp back to his command. Comrades true to death, too, were there—wounded, assisting one another from the ground. Sometimes they managed to get away. More frequently they fell smitten, killed, side by side.

Generals Buller and Clery had numerous escapes and ran risks that made men nervous about them, for the death of either would have been hailed by the enemies as a victory. Both were hit by glancing bullets. Buller in the side and Clery in the arm, out of the staff, Captain Hughes was killed, others were wounded, and Lord Gerard had his horse shot down. Captain Congreve crept into a donga above which no one could with safety peep. From there he subsequently went out with Major Haptle and brought in Lieutenant Roberts.

The end was near. Although Lyttelton's brigade moved closer forward to Hart's and Hildyard's support about noon, yet there being no appreciable advance made in any direction, General Clery ordered a retirement. Word was sent to the General commanding the field batteries: "You are ordered to retire. You cannot get your guns away." Fear?

The surgeons and ambulances had followed in the footsteps of the troops and done all that was possible to mitigate suffering. Still there were many they could not reach, for the Boers took no notice of the Geneva Cross badge on any man's arm. Gradually, steadily, the infantry came in without hurry or fear. Nay, most of them were clamorous to be left to stare where they had won their way, confident by and by of rushing the Boer position.

Several detached parties from Hart's Brigade at Brille Drift to Hlangwane learned too late that they had been left unsupported. Many of the Irish made plucky dashes through the field of death to rejoin their battalions. Others, less fortunate, were captured.

Fourteen of the Devons, with Colonel Bullock, Major MacWalter, Captains Goodwin and Vane, and seven gunners, including Colonel Buller, lay in the same donga as Captain Congreve until 5 p. m. They hoped, like many more, to keep the enemy from carrying off the guns and slip away themselves after sunset, but a complete retirement had been effected by the brigades actively engaged. Although Lyttelton's men had advanced they were not permitted to take up a position from which they could check the Boers from returning to the south side of the Tuguela.

By 4 p. m. the fight was practically at an end. Our naval guns, however, fired occasionally. Lyttelton's and Barton's brigades were in the rear, but they were moving into their old camp. The men had not lost heart, but smoked, chatted and sang, and would have given the shirts off their backs to have been in at the Boers. Our losses were heavy, probably in all-killed and wounded and missing—some 1,500. They must have run into 5,000, or thereabouts, had the troops been permitted to force their way through the Boer works to the top of Grobler's Hill. Given rearrangements of the disposition of the troops, I doubt not they would have carried the whole position.

About 5 p. m. a party of Boers approached the ten guns, and Colonel Bullock threatened to fire upon them unless they retired. A parley ensued. The Boers declared their willingness to allow the wounded to be taken back into camp, but just then over 20 Boers got to within a few yards of the donga, and further resistance was hopeless. Colonel Bullock, declining to surrender, was knocked down and captured. With a good deal of consideration the enemy furnished the wounded with water and cordials. All their arms, ammunition and field glasses were taken from them, and then the ambulance wagon was brought up and the maimed and injured were sent back; the unwounded, including Colonel Hunt, Royal Artillery, who, they said, was not seriously hurt, were made prisoners.

Our loss in prisoners is about 30, including men from most of the battalions of Hart's and Hildyard's brigades, with several from General Barton's force. The Scottish Fusiliers, in that connection, had very bad luck, for they got lost in an untenable position and were surrounded. Our losses in officers and men have been heavy, but relatively not so great since they have discarded swords and other too conspicuous insignia of rank.

On Saturday we slept in camp, facing the enemy, who began moving down heavy Creusot guns wherewith to shell us, but, as there was no water available for any body of troops nearer than Frere, unless at Colenso, it was decided to send back two of the brigades. Indeed, water for drinking purposes was at a premium in Chieveley's advanced camps on Saturday.

That night there was an eclipse of the moon. In the dusk and dark tents were struck and packed. At 3 a. m. on Sunday Hildyard's and Hart's brigades were marched back to Frere, the Irishmen growling terribly and swearing that they were being taken the wrong road. It was to Colenso, sure, they should be going to see the Boers.

With exceptional tact the majority of wounded were recovered from the battlefield and sent in to the ample and well-planned hospitals at Chieveley Railway Station. Frere, Edouard and Pietersburg. Lyttelton's and Barton's brigades got about a mile and a half, and are now, with the big naval guns and twelve-pounders occupying stony ridge commanding the southern roads from Colenso. We are said to be waiting for more guns and rearranging plans for a successful battle and advance upon Ladysmith. General Buller has been informed of what has taken place, and told to hold on a little longer.

I regret to say Lieutenant Roberts succumbed to his painful injuries, this (Sunday) morning. He was buried with five soldiers, each in separate grave, close to Chieveley Railway Station. General Clery and staff attended the funeral, as well as one of the gallant deceased's brother officers. There he now sleeps in a soldier's grave.

HARVARD INDEPENDENT. Higher Grade in English Composition and Literature Required.

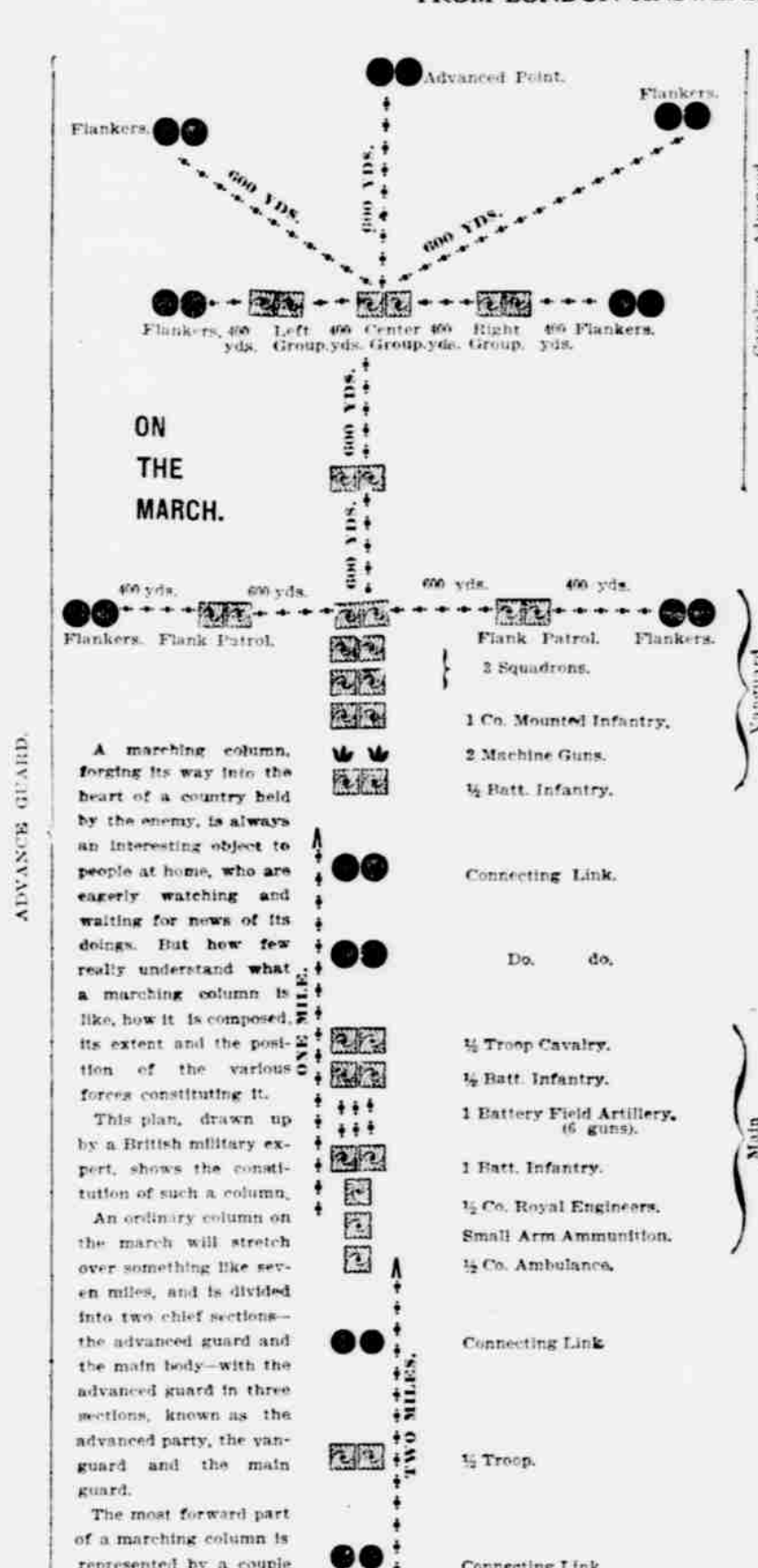
Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 20.—The faculty of Harvard University has passed a measure which may have an important bearing on the admission requirements in the English of the New England colleges. The Harvard delegates at the recent meeting of the association to bring about uniform admission requirements to the various colleges represented requested that the standard of English be raised so as to comprise what is now freshman work. The committee refused to consider the proposition, and therefore the Harvard faculty has adopted an independent measure. The regular admission to Harvard is by examination, and will not be required to take English in college, and will thus have a free choice of his course. The change is significant in two directions. It marks the beginning of an independent move by Harvard to raise its standards, and it marks the beginning of English composition and literature being entering college, and it is the beginning toward the end of making the work for the Harvard degree of A. B. entirely elective.

PETITION IN BANKRUPTCY. R. H. Southgate Schedules Liabilities of \$434,988.

Chicago, Jan. 20.—Mr. R. H. Southgate of this city, manager of the Auditorium Hotel, filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy here to-day. The schedule indicates that he, as president of the late Hotel Brunswick Company of New York, which was closed in the fall of 1898, became personally involved for himself and others, since deceased, by indentures and personal guarantees of long term leases of the hotel property. The closing of the Brunswick was brought about by the erection of modern fireproof palaces, such as the Waldorf-Astoria, Holland, Saratoga, Imperial, etc., in the near vicinity of New York, which was closed in the fall of 1898, became personally involved for himself and others, since deceased, by indentures and personal guarantees of long term leases of the hotel property. The closing of the Brunswick was brought about by the erection of modern fireproof palaces, such as the Waldorf-Astoria, Holland, Saratoga, Imperial, etc., in the near vicinity of New York, which was closed in the fall of 1898, became personally involved for himself and others, since deceased, by indentures and personal guarantees of long term leases of the hotel property. The closing of the Brunswick was brought about by the erection of modern fireproof palaces, such as the Waldorf-Astoria, Holland, Saratoga, Imperial, etc., in the near vicinity of New York, which was closed in the fall of 1898, became personally involved for himself and others, since deceased, by indentures and personal guarantees of long term leases of the hotel property.

THIS IS HOW A BRITISH MILITARY COLUMN ADVANCES—AMERICAN IDEA PRESENTED.

FROM LONDON ANSWERS.



A marching column, forcing its way into the heart of a country held by the enemy, is always an interesting object to people at home, who are eagerly watching and waiting for news of its doings. But how few really understand what a marching column is like, how it is composed, its extent and the position of the various forces constituting it.

This plan, drawn up by a British military expert, shows the constitution of such a column.

An ordinary column on the march will stretch over something like seven miles, and is divided into two chief sections—the advanced guard and the main body—with the advanced party, the vanguard and the main guard.

The most forward part of a marching column is represented by a couple of cavalry, and if you look at the plan you will see how the cavalry fan is thrown out by means of flankers, six hundred and eight hundred yards distant from the central group of cavalry.

The flankers, as is apparent, take all initial dangers, and they need to have all their wits about them. They are the electric buttons which give the alarm to the whole army. Immediately the enemy is sighted or something exceptional occurs a flanker drops back to or communicates with the nearest group of cavalry.

Thence the news is passed on to the center, and with telegraphic speed the word goes along the line back to the main body. Within a few minutes of the time when the advanced point or flanker was surprised the main body may be preparing for battle.

From the cavalry fan to the military police, who bring up the rear, the whole constitution of a marching column can be seen by the plan. The army advances in clumps, so to speak, with connecting links of cavalry, making the communication perfect from the advance point to the commissariat and the police in the rear.

Bearing in mind that the numerical strength of a battalion is 1,000 men, a regiment of cavalry six, and a battery of artillery 125, the war strength at every point of the column indicated can be estimated, and from the numbers given in the press from time to time you can at home form a conception of Clery's or any other column upon paper in almost identical order as they will be marching in South Africa.

OPPOSED TO UNIONS. Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Recognizes Employees Only.

Scranton, Pa., Jan. 20.—The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western company to-day began closing its mines. Officials of the company declare this is done because of an overproduction for market demands, and among the miners there is general conclusion that it is done for the purpose of eliminating any labor trouble by reason of the present unrest among the miners. The company has offered to deal with its employees alone, but refuses absolutely to receive any committee representing the Mine Workers' Union.

Men's \$10.00 and \$7.50 Suits and Overcoats \$2.50 and \$4.00. Clearing sale, Globe, South and Franklin avenues.

PROTEST OVERRULED. Duty of Sixty Per Cent Placed on Nottingham Lace Curtains.

New York, Jan. 20.—The Board of Classification of the United States general appraisers to-day announced a decision overruling the importers' protest regarding certain kinds of Nottingham lace window curtains. The importers claimed that they should be classified as curtains made on Nottingham machines, and a duty of 50 per cent ad valorem imposed. But the collector at Philadelphia, in assessing the curtains, imposed a duty of 60 per cent ad valorem, classifying the goods as lace window curtains, as described in paragraph 228 of the tariff act.

WHITEN FOR THE SUNDAY REPUBLIC.

Captain T. F. Davis, Fifteenth Infantry, U. S. A., now on recruiting duty in St. Louis, explaining that, according to the diagram of a British marching formation heretofore presented, the difference between the British and the American marching plans is that the British do not take the great amount of care in guarding against surprise that the Americans take. "The formation of a line of march must necessarily depend upon whether the army or division is marching to an attack, and the character of the country that is being traversed," said Captain Davis. "There are certain rules, however, that are always followed as closely as possible. One of these is each subdivision of a marching column shall be supported by its own flankers."

"The position that these flankers take is, roughly, of the shape of a spearhead. They diverge from a point in front. No two of them are abreast, and no man follows directly behind another. According to the diagram, the flankers form a line in the American Army. It seems that they spread out in fan shape, and that the flankers are abreast of the point of the advance party. And it does not seem that there are flankers for any but the advance party and the vanguard. In the American Army, there are flankers for the advance party, the vanguard and the main body. In the case of the British, the flankers are of a sufficient number to fully cover both its flanks, and spread out as far as the flankers of the van do."

"The formation of the rear of an American army on the march is the same as that of the van, only its deployment is exactly the reverse—the point of the spearhead is toward the rear. In the case of a halt, the rear guard faces about and is on guard against attack from behind. In the case of retreat, the rear guard becomes the vanguard, and the vanguard becomes the rear guard."

"The strength of the van and rear guards and the flankers depends upon the stage of the march. The disposition of the various arms of the column are about the same as shown in the diagram of the British marching column. In the event that a battle is expected, the reserves include a force of artillery, and an ambulance train of the size considered advisable. When the march is to be continued, the column, it does guard and flank duty, as it can give much quicker service. Cavalry also forms the connecting links between the subdivisions of the column."

"About a day before a column advances a body of cavalry is usually sent out in front to clear the country that is to be traversed. The column follows the line of march taken by this body of cavalry, which is called the 'screen.'"

"The distance between the vanguard and the main body is always sufficient to give time, in the event of attack, for formation of the main body in line of battle before the main body of the enemy can advance upon it. The vanguard is of sufficient strength to halt the enemy long enough to permit this deployment."

"The formation of a column is never closer than is made necessary by the nature of the country. The whole thing is to keep the column as open as possible, without straining it out so that one part of it is in danger of being cut off from another by a sudden dash by the enemy. In open country, the formation is very open, but in mountainous country the formation is more compact to reduce as much as possible the danger of one party getting lost from the main body."

MINING PROSPECTS IN SHANNON COUNTY.

Special Correspondence of The Shannon Republic. Eminence, Mo., Jan. 18.—Shannon County, Mo., especially this part around Eminence, the county seat, is rich in copper and will, ere long, be a veritable mining camp. Money is being spent here daily, and by the thousands, in prospecting, in actual development, and in the purchase and sale of mineral, mining claims, and mineral lands deeded.

The old Slater mines, worked some sixty-eight years ago—were worked successfully then, when the price of copper was \$1.00 a pound, and it is now \$1.00 a pound. The Slater mines were long thought to be the only paying property in this county; but recent investigation with pick and shovel, core drill and dynamite has proven the falsity of this supposition. Other mines are already in operation here, and are turning out good results. The Slater mines, though all, save the old Slater mine, are yet in the experimental stages of development. Among the most paying finds yet made in the Slater mines is the "Hen Creek" copper mine, which is owned and operated by the Eminence Land and Mining Company; the "Casey mine," now in operation with paying results, some three miles out of town; and the "Stacy's Creek" mine, near town. All these mines are now in actual operation—digging copper, sacking copper, and shipping copper, a grade of 60 per cent pure copper, and realizing to the operators a fair profit.

By it now has been out, after long years of jeopardy and litigation, that the old Slater mine is to be opened again soon. Frank Slater, the discoverer of the mine, which contains native copper, has recently fallen heir to a considerable fortune in the West, thus enabling him to begin early a prosecution of his mining plans.

STRINGS OF RARE PEARLS.

Many of the Dainty Beauties Were Found in America.

A string of pearls of unusual size and purity, valued at the large sum of \$10,000, is being shown by a Cleveland, O., firm, says the Plain Dealer. Among other fine pearl necklaces and chains. Aside from the admiration which the intrinsic beauty of the gem challenges, wonder is felt that it is possible to gather together so many of them that shall so perfectly match in color, size, shape and beauty of luster. It takes many years to make up a string of such pearls, and the quality of the pearls enhances its value.

The same company has a large unopened pearl which was brought in its original home within a piece of oyster shell by a soldier boy from Manila, who, in his turn purchased it from a native Filipino. This pearl is valued at \$500. It lies securely in the nearly new, but beautiful, and is a native within the shell, and is large and of exquisite purity of color.

Other strings of pearls vary at from \$2,000 to \$10,000, one at the latter price offering a pendant of a bird in diamonds from whose breast hangs a "key" pearl. A dog collar of four strings of small pearls with diamond slides is very attractive. Several rings and brooches in which colored pearls are set, bring large prices. These colored pearls, which are found with all the delicate tints of color from bronze through violet and rose, are highly esteemed by London merchants, and are rapidly bought up from the American dealer.

These are fresh water pearls, and are found chiefly in America, especially along the streams of Wisconsin and that vicinity.

WAR STAMP OF 1861. Ex-Senator Honorable J. C. Beane of South Pittsburg, in subscribing to the New York Herald, gave a check on a bank that was issued by the Government in 1861, says the Chattanooga News. These blanks were stamped with a 2-cent war revenue stamp, and of course, the government will redeem them now. Therefore, Mr. Beane did not have to put an extra 2-cent stamp on the check.